

*Pulmonary Tuberculosis*, 4th Edition. By W. PAGEL, F. A. H. SIMMONDS, N. MACDONALD, and E. NASSAU. London: Oxford University Press. Pp. 520. £5 5s.

This is a worthy descendant of a famous textbook which first appeared a generation ago. Ten years separate the fourth edition from its predecessor, and that decade witnessed a rapid acceleration of the advances in the management and understanding of pulmonary tuberculosis which began with the introduction of chemotherapy. The changed pattern of pulmonary tuberculosis is very well reflected in this edition. Extensive pruning, revision, and rewriting have produced virtually a new text-book which covers, in its four parts, bacteriology and pathology, diagnosis, management, and finally epidemiology and prevention.

This book is intended essentially for the chest physician, but there is much that would be of value to the general physician, pædiatrician, pathologist, and those concerned with public health. The presentation is modern and excellent. The text is clear, it is lavishly illustrated, and there are extensive references at the end of each chapter.

The four authors are to be congratulated on this production. There is no comparable work in this country today, and, many may rightly consider, in the English language.

M. CAPLIN.

*Resistance to Tuberculosis*. By MAX. B. LURIE. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press. Pp. 391. 80s.

Despite its title, this is not a general account of resistance to tuberculosis; it is a summary of 40 years' work on experimental tuberculosis in laboratory animals, chiefly rabbits. The findings are only indirectly applicable to human disease, and the author disclaims any intention of writing a successor to Arnold Rich's 21-year-old work on the pathogenesis of tuberculosis.

Lurie began by injecting tubercle bacilli intravenously and studying their growth in various organs. From this he went on to investigate the bacteriostatic powers of normal and immune macrophages *in vitro* and found that the immunity conferred by inoculation with tuberculosis extends to other intracellular parasites such as *Brucella*. He then abandoned intravenous injection in favour of natural contagion by airborne particles derived from infected rabbits in adjacent cages. Pulmonary tuberculosis produced in this way closely resembles the disease in man. By continued inbreeding he was able to develop rabbit families with widely varying natural resistance and noted the curious fact that the incidence of endometrial carcinoma was roughly twice as high in the susceptible families as in the families of high natural resistance. Another interesting observation is that the resistant families acquire the infection more readily than the susceptible ones; their superiority lies in their greater power to check the progress of the disease. Other chapters deal with the transport of bacilli from the portal of entry, the effects of hormones, and the enzymes of the macrophage.

Most readers will naturally begin by looking through the last chapter—"Recapitulation and Integration"—and they should perhaps be warned not to be discouraged by its obscure and turgid style: the main text is much easier to read.

D. P. WINSTANLEY.